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LETTER DATED 12 FEBRUARY 1999 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon the instructions of my Government, I am writing to draw your attention to the statement of Albanian Prime Minister Pandelli Majko, made at a press conference in Tirana on 9 February 1999, to the effect that all Albanians, the entire Albanian factor in the Balkans, Albania, Macedonia, Kosovo and Montenegro, have a right to collective self-defence.

The statement amounts to an open call for the destabilization of the entire region and is an example of flagrant interference in the internal affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, a sovereign country and a United Nations Member State. It also provides compelling evidence that the leaders of Albania pay no heed to the principles and goals of the Charter of the United Nations or to international law, which has a direct negative bearing on the overall situation in the region and in Europe as a whole.

In this context, it is important to note that the militant statement of the Prime Minister of Albania is along the lines of the project for a Greater Albania and draws on the 1991 decision of the Albanian Parliament recognizing the so-called independent Republic of Kosovo and its self-styled government. Albania continues to provide training facilities and other logistic support to terrorists who infiltrate the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia from its territory every day and commit acts of brutal terrorism, killing and kidnapping officials and civilians alike. The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and other international organizations have reported on many occasions the existence of terrorist training centres in northern Albania, in particular at Bajram Curri, Kukes and Tropoja, documenting thus Albania's repeated non-compliance with the demands contained in Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998), 1199 (1998) and 1203 (1998).

At a time when every effort is being made at Rambouillet, France, to find a peaceful political solution to the problems in Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia, the Prime Minister of Albania, by his statement, has rendered overt support to terrorism and separatism, the forces that are opposed to such a solution. The statement falls within the ambit of Albania's overall policy aimed at undermining the

meeting at Rambouillet and at provoking military intervention against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia expects the Security Council to condemn the statement of the Prime Minister of Albania, which is contrary to the principles and goals of the Charter of the United Nations, undermines the stability of the region and is a function of the idea of creating a Greater Albania.

I would be very grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIĆ
Chargé d'affairs a.i.